(c) whether it has been decided to fund the production of a commercial Hindi film to depict the events of 1857 from the present Government's view point; and

(d) whether it is customary for Government to fund commercial Hindi films?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No, Sir. So far only a Rs. 10 crores allocation has been made for the commemorative celebrations.

(b) No Sir. However, some historians nominated on the Committee have expressed their reservations to be on the Committee.

(c) No such decision has been taken.

(d) No, Sir.

Cut down of non-developmental expenditure

†2609. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have taken any steps to curtail various non-developmental expenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated amount of funds that would be saved by the Central Government by stopping the unnecessary expenses, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Instructions are issued to all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India from time to time to observe economy in expenditure. Latest instructions include, *inter-alia,* restrictions on the creation of posts, filling up of vacant posts, purchase of vehicles, holding of seminars/conferences, foreign travel etc. Ministries/ Departments have also been instructed to make a 5% cut on non-Plan expenditure excluding interest payment, repayment of debt, defence capital, salaries, pension and the Finance Commission grants to the States so as to release resources for developmental programmes.

(c) It is not feasible to estimate the amount of funds so saved by the Central Government.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.